

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 11-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 11-19 have been amended. Claims 1-10 have been canceled.

Also by this Preliminary Amendment, the specification has been revised to identify the parent application.

Since claims 11-19 have been amended merely to improve form and/or antecedent, and since no prior art has been applied as of yet in this divisional application, it should be clear that these amendments have not been made to distinguish over any prior art. Accordingly, these amendments should not be construed as narrowing scope within the meaning of *Festo*.

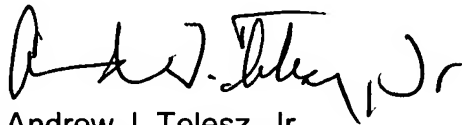
Favorable consideration and early allowance of the present application are earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any outstanding matters remaining in the present application, please contact Andrew J. Telesz, Jr. (Reg. No. 33,581) at (703) 715-0870 in the Washington, D.C. area, to discuss these matters.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment for any additional fees that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0238.

Respectfully submitted,

VOLENTINE FRANCOS, P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A. J. Telesz, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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